

Park Bond Act of 2000



Department of Parks and Recreation Mission Statement

To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

As California edges into the 21st Century, the most significant aspect of our mission is to ensure that future generations are able to enjoy California's diverse natural and cultural heritage while enjoying its outstanding recreational opportunities.

The Department of Parks and Recreation will play an important role as a leader among park, recreation and resource management service providers. The Department will not only strengthen its bond with its traditional partners, including government agencies, cooperative associations, foundations, user groups, environmental organizations, and numerous other non-profit groups but will also form new partnerships with a broad range of service providers to insure the Department connects with all Californians.

Responding to the recreational and open-space needs of a growing population and expanding communities, the 2000 Bond Act will revive state stewardship of natural and cultural resources by investing in neighborhood and state parks, coastal beaches and scenic areas, and promoting clean water protection.

Together we share the ability and the responsibility to carry on a proud century-old heritage of stewardship and enjoyment!

2000 Bond Act Programs Addressed in this Document

- ◆ Per Capita Grant Program I (Statewide)
- ◆ Per Capita Grant Program II (Small Cities and Districts)
- ◆ Roberti-Z'berg-Harris Urban Open Space and Recreation Grants Program
- ◆ Riparian and Riverine Habitat Grant Program
- ◆ Non-Motorized Trails Program
- ◆ Murray-Hayden (Urban Youth Services) Program
- ◆ Dr. Paul Chaffee Zoological Program
- ◆ Urban Recreational and Cultural Centers and Wildlife and Environmental Education Program
- ◆ Regional Youth Soccer/Baseball Facilities Program
- ◆ California Heritage Fund Program

2000 Bond Act Questions and Answers

Q. Must a grantee pay the state administrative costs "off the top" of grant award?

A. No. State administrative costs of 5.553% are taken at the front end of the bond sales process prior to allocation or award of bond money. The Department of Finance uses this money to cover administrative costs. Significantly, DPR uses less than 1.5% to administer Bond Act programs.

Q. I can't obtain all of the required permits before the application deadline. Am I required to complete all permitting before I apply for a grant?

A. No. However, all permits must be obtained before beginning construction. Please consult with your Project Officer concerning the specifics of your case

Park Bond Act of 2000



Q. How much of the project grant amount can be spent on non-construction costs?

A. Up to 25% of the project grant amount may be spent on non-construction costs, including grants administration, plans, permits, specifications, and CEQA compliance.

Q. When do you expect the public hearings on the draft guidelines to be held?

A. The public hearings for the draft guidelines for some programs began last April. Others are expected to continue through the summer of 2001. Remember to continue to check our web site for exact dates!

Q. May I have a copy of the Organizational Chart for the Office of Grants and Local Services, and a listing of who is responsible for individual programs and counties?

A. Yes! The organizational chart may be obtained by calling the Department at (916) 653-4563 and program contact information is easily accessible through our web site at: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=1008

Q. Can several eligible applicants jointly file a project proposal?

A. Yes. The application should specify which agency would be in the lead as far as the grant contract is concerned.

Q. Are schools eligible for funds through any of the programs?

A. No, however, schools may form partnerships with an eligible applicant. The eligible applicant must meet all of the tenure and maintenance requirements found in the Bond Act.

Q. What's the difference between an "urbanized county" and a "heavily urbanized county?"

A. An urbanized county has a population of 200,000 or greater. Heavily urbanized counties have a population over 1,000,000.

Q. Do Per Capita or Block Grants have a matching requirement?

A. The Per Capita I and II programs do not require a match. The Roberti-Z'berg-Harris Block Grant program does require the grant recipient to provide a 30% match of the total project cost, with one-third of the 30% match funded by private or non-state sources.

Q. Where can I get a copy of the 2000 Bond Act text?

A. You can download the text from our web site or from the Public Resources Code (Section 5096.300) web site at: www.leginfo.ca.gov

Per Capita I and II

Q. How much is available and who can apply for these funds?

A. For the Per Capita I Program \$338,000,000 is allocated in the state budget. Of the total funds available, 60% will be allocated to cities and districts other than a regional park district, regional park and open-space district, or regional open-space district. The remaining 40% of the total funds will be allocated to counties and regional park districts, and combination regional park and open-space districts, or regional open-space districts.

In the Per Capita II Program, \$50,000,000 is allocated to small cities and districts providing park and recreation services in urbanized counties. (A small city or district is a jurisdiction with a population of 200,000 or less, and a urbanized county is a county with a population of 200,000 or more.)

Q. What can these funds be used for?

A. For acquisition, development, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration, enhancement, and interpretation of local park and recreation lands and facilities, including renovation of recreational

Park Bond Act of 2000



facilities conveyed to local agencies resulting from the downsizing or decommissioning of federal military installations.

Q. How are allocations determined and how much per person will each agency get?

A. For cities and counties we are using the estimated population from the California Department of Finance as of January 1, 2000. Your allocation is based on this population. For Per Capita I, the allocation is \$6.43 per person for cities, \$3.69 per person for counties, and in the Per Capita II program, it is \$2.64 per person for cities and districts. The Per Capita allocations are available on the web at <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/1008/files/ALLOCATIONSFOR2000BONDACT.pdf>.

Q. What is the process for applying for funds, and when will funds be available?

A. Guidelines for this program have been mailed. They include application forms and required documentation. A letter was sent to eligible districts, cities and counties informing them that the program guidelines are available. By law, contracts must be executed by eligible agencies by June 30, 2003 (Three years from the appropriation date). Individual project applications may be submitted at any time within the eight years following fund appropriation but projects will need to be completed by the June 30, 2008 deadline. Please continue to check our web site for current updates!

Contact Person: Project Officer.

List of Project Officers is listed at:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=21369.

For questions concerning allocation amounts, please contact: John Hart (916)651-8576 or jhart@parks.ca.gov

Murray Hayden Urban Youth Services Program

Q. How much is available in this program?

A. \$45,000,000 is available for competitive projects.

Q. Who can apply for these funds?

A. Heavily urbanized counties and cities, non-profit organizations, park districts; and federally recognized California Indian tribes in those cities and counties.

Q. What can these funds be used for?

A. Funds shall be allocated for parks, park facilities, or environmental youth service centers that are within immediate proximity of a neighborhood that has been identified by the department as having a critical lack of park or open-space lands or deteriorated park facilities, that are in an area of significant poverty and unemployment and that have a shortage of services for youth. Priority shall be given to capital projects employing neighborhood residents and at-risk youth.

Q. When will weighting criteria and guidelines be available for public review?

A. The proposed review period will occur during the summer of 2001.

Q. Can eligible public entities partner with a non-profit, and can two or more non-profits partner together?

A. In both cases YES!

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Park Bond Act of 2000



Contact Person: Don Shapiro, (916) 651-8575 or dshap@parks.ca.gov

Urban Recreational and Cultural Centers and Wildlife and Environmental Education Program

Q. How much is available for this program?

A. \$7,675,000 is available for funding.

Q. Who can apply for these funds?

A. Through a nomination process cities, counties, nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized California Indian tribes.

Q. What is the nomination process, and when do nominations need to be submitted to the Legislature?

A. Letters of nomination were due to the Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS) prior to July 1, 2001. Nominated applicants will receive program guidelines and application materials by the end of July. Applicants must return the complete project applications to OGALS by November 1, 2001. OGALS will evaluate projects and prior to April 1, 2002, will submit to the Legislature a prioritized listing and comparative evaluation of all nominated projects. Funds will then be dispersed after they are appropriated in the state budget and there is a fully executed contract between the Department and the Grantee.

Q.. What can these funds be used for?

A. Funds will be used for the development or rehabilitation of real property consisting of urban recreational and cultural centers, museums, and facilities for wildlife education or environmental education.

Q. Are funds available for land acquisition?

A. No, funds shall be used for the development or rehabilitation of real property only.

Contact Person: Jennifer Buckingham (916) 653-8776 or jbuck@parks.ca.gov

Contact Person: Julie Malm (916) 651-8574 or jmalm@parks.ca.gov

Regional Youth Soccer and Baseball Facilities

The funds remaining in this program have been appropriated by the Legislature for specific projects pending approval of the State 200-02 budget. If you have any questions, contact Don Shapiro at (916) 651-8575 or email at dshap@parks.ca.gov

Roberti-Z'Berg-Harris Urban Open Space and Recreation Grants Program (RZH)

Q. Please explain the RZH program.

A. It is easier if you think of RZH as having three separate sub-programs:

- Block grants allocated on a per capita basis to eligible public agencies in urbanized areas
- Nonurbanized area need basis grants awarded competitively statewide
- Urbanized area need basis grants awarded competitively statewide

Q. How much money is available for this Program?

A. \$189,000,000 as follows:

- \$157,000,000 for Block Grants
- \$ 3,800,000 for competitive grants in Urbanized Areas
- \$ 28,340,000 for competitive grants in Nonurbanized Areas.

Q. Where can I see the allocations for the RZH Block Grants?

A. The RZH Block Grant allocations are on the web at:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/1008/files/ALLOCACTIONSFOR2000BONDACT_RZH.pdf .

Park Bond Act of 2000



Q. What is the deadline to apply for a competitive grant?

A. November 1, 2001.

Q. Is there a match requirement for an RZH grant?

A. Yes. All RZH grants require non-state funds or non-monetary donations be used to match the grant amount. The ratio of state funds to non-state matching funds is 70% state and 30% non-state (i.e. if you want one dollar we give you 70 cents and you have to come up with 30 cents). For more information see the Procedural Guides.

Q. It is hard for us to get donations from the private sector. Can the requirement for private sector match be waived for the RZH Program?

A. Under certain circumstances, yes. But the full amount of the match still has to be provided.

Q. Can the match requirement be waived entirely?

A. Yes, but only for an Acquisition project.

Q. Will I be notified if I'm eligible for a block grant?

A. All eligible agencies have already been notified.

Q. Can I receive both block and competitive grants?

A. Yes, in the case of the Urbanized Area Need Basis grantees. The Block Grant allocation will remain in effect for an agency that winds up with a successful competitive project request.

Q. Are the cities and counties that got Block Grants at the higher rate for heavily urbanized areas eligible to compete for additional funds under the Urbanized Area Competitive Grants?

A. No. For more information, contact your Project Officer.

Q. What kinds of projects are eligible?

A. RZH funds may either be spent on an acquisition or a development/rehabilitation project. Also, up to 30 percent of a grant may be spent on either Special Major Maintenance or Innovative Recreation Programs.

Q. What qualifies as an Innovative Recreation Program?

A. An Innovative Recreation Program is one that is new AND creatively addresses a community's recreation needs.

Q. What is an "Urbanized Area?"

A. An "urbanized area" consists of a central city or cities and surrounding closely settled territory, as determined by the Department of Finance on the basis of the most recent verifiable census data. The most recent verifiable census data are the "Urbanized Area" maps produced by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. The next updates of these maps will be based on the 2000 Census. The maps will be available in late 2002 or early 2003.

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Non-Motorized Trails

Q. Who can apply for these funds?

A. Funds are available on a competitive basis to cities, counties, districts, federally recognized California Indian tribes, local agencies formed for park purposes pursuant to a joint powers agreement, and other districts as defined in Section 5096.337 (b) and (c) of the 2000 Bond Act text. School districts and non-profit organizations are not eligible to apply for this

Park Bond Act of 2000



program but may partner with an eligible agency.

Q. What can these funds be used for?

A. Funds will be used for the development, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration, enhancement, and interpretation of non-motorized trails for the purpose of increasing public access to, and enjoyment of, public areas for increased recreational opportunities.

Q. How much is available for this program and is it available this fiscal year?

A. \$1.74 million in competitive grants is available.

Q. How can I get a program guideline?

A. Guidelines can be downloaded from our web site or you may phone the Department and request one be mailed to you.

Q. When is the application deadline?

A. October 1, 2001

Q. Can we use funding for land acquisition?

A. No. Funds may only be used for the following activities: development, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration, enhancement and interpretation of non-motorized trails.

Contact Person: Julie Malm

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Riparian and Riverine Habitats

Q. Who can apply for funds?

A. Cities, counties, special districts, park districts, and federally recognized California Indian Tribes.

Q. How much funding is available?

A. \$9,446,000 is available, however it has not been appropriated into the state budget at this time.

Q. What can these funds be used for?

**California Department of Parks and Recreation
Office of Grants and Local Assistance (Rev. 07-01)**

A. Funds can be used for the improvement or acquisition and restoration of riparian habitat, riverine aquatic habitat, and other lands in close proximity to rivers and streams for river and stream trail projects and river parkway projects in accordance with Section 78682.2 of the Water Code, and for purposes of Section 7048 of the Water Code.

Q. What types of projects qualify for funding?

A. The range of qualified project types include, but are not limited to:

- Projects that add to or restore river parkways.
- Projects that improve the natural environment of rivers and streams.
- Projects that restore riparian, aquatic, and wildlife habitat.
- Projects that deal with stream-related problems such as erosion and water quality.
- Projects that develop or restore stream trails.

Q. What is the application deadline?

A. February 1, 2002.

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Contact Person: Bill Orme

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Dr. Paul Chaffee Zoological Program

Q. What's this program about?

A. This program provides \$5,786,000 in funds for the development, rehabilitation, or restoration of zoos and aquariums operated by cities, counties and nonprofit organizations.

Q. Who is eligible to apply for funds?

A. Cities, counties, non-profit organizations, and federally recognized California Indian Tribes.

Park Bond Act of 2000



Q. How will funds be allocated?

A. According to the 2000 Bond Act, most of the funds will be allocated to institutions accredited by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA). Some funds may be made available for institutions seeking AZA accreditation and for institutions that care for animals that have been injured or abandoned and cannot be returned to the wild.

Q. When will the guidelines become available?

A. Guidelines are proposed to become available in October, 2001.

Q. What is the application deadline?

A. February 1, 2002.

Contact Person: Julie Malm

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Contact Person: Bill Orme

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For more information on these or any of the grants administered by the Office of Grants and Local Services, please contact the Department at TEL (916) 653-4563 or go to the California State Parks website: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=1008

California Heritage Program

Q. Who can apply for these funds?

A. Funds are available on a competitive basis to cities, counties, districts, federally recognized California Indian tribes, local agencies formed for park purposes pursuant to a joint powers agreement between two or more local entities, and nonprofit organizations.

Q. What can these funds be used for?

A. Funds will be use for acquisition, development, rehabilitation, restoration, and interpretation of historical resources.

Q. Are there funds available for this program?

A. Yes, there is \$8,506,000 allocated in the Bond Act, however, it has not been appropriated at this time.

Q. Who is administering this program?

A. The Office of Historic Preservation.

Contact Person: Paula Jow

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